



## Portage & Arcadia Creeks Watershed Transition Project

August 15, 2004 to December 31, 2005

Tracking Code 2003-0028

This project updated the original web-based Watershed Management Plan (WMP) for Arcadia and Portage Creeks -- two adjacent tributaries draining to the Kalamazoo River of Michigan -- in order to address EPA's nine elements requirements. Pollutant load estimates were reported by stream segment for known problem sites and for storm sewered areas. Load reductions were estimated for past, current and future implementation sites. Included in the scope of this project were the subwatersheds of Axtell Creek and the West Branch of Portage Creek, which both drain into Portage Creek. Additional activities included Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring, lakes summary, a pilot downspout disconnect and rain barrel program and consideration of a volunteer monitoring program. The updated WMP was approved by MDEQ on February 10, 2006.

**Grant Amount: \$ 100,000**

**Match Funds: \$39,100**

---

**Total Amount: \$139,100**

### Best Management Practices:

- Stream buffer (30 feet)
- Seven Rain barrels



### Annual Load Reductions:

- Sediment: 0.11 tons
- Phosphorus: 1.22 pounds
- Nitrogen: 11.44 pounds



Portage & Arcadia Creeks  
Subwatersheds with Portage Creek  
Highlighted

### I&E Activities:

- Web updates  
<http://www.kalamazooriver.net/pa319new/index.htm>
- Exploratory meetings with educators in an effort to develop curriculum
- Axtell Creek walking tour brochure developed
- Education subcommittee interacted with teachers and students monitoring water quality
- Project partners, the WildOnes, continued maintenance on native planting areas in the Axtell Creek subwatershed
- Updated stream stretch scoring



### Partners involved:

- The Forum of Greater Kalamazoo
- Cities of Kalamazoo and Portage
- Oshtemo and Texas Townships
- Kalamazoo County
- Kalamazoo Conservation District
- Western Michigan University
- WildOnes Natural Landscapers
- Girl Scouts of America
- Kieser & Associates, LLC
- Geum Services, Inc.



**Paris Cleaners Before:** Sheet flow from a 1/3 acre commercial area flowed through mowed grass into Axtell Creek.



**Paris Cleaners After:** Native species were planted at this site to restore and protect the bank and filter runoff.



**Hillcrest Neighborhood Before:** Participants building rain barrels.



**Hillcrest Neighborhood After:** Completed, installed rain barrel.